



Gun Laws and Firearm Mortality Rates

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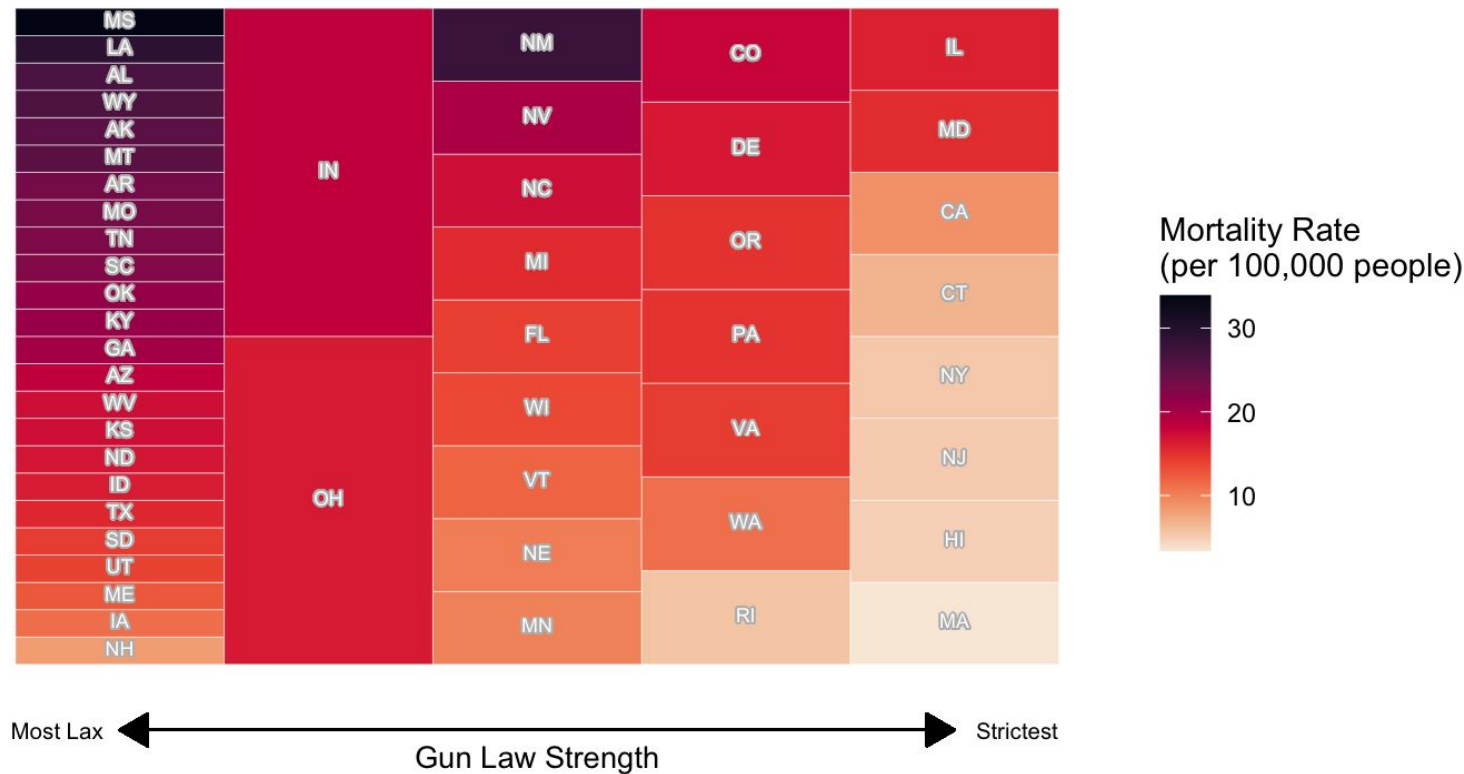


Introduction

- The topic of gun control is fraught; **proponents** of gun control laws **claim that these laws will save lives**
- At the same time, **opponents** of these laws **claim that the laws are either ineffective or counterproductive**
- This presentation looks at states' level of gun control in 2021 (Giffords Law Center), and considers whether there are correlations with 2021 firearm mortality rates (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Firearm Mortality Rate by Law Strength

States with the most lax gun laws have higher firearm mortality rates



Note: the tile heights are adjusted for aesthetic purposes; they do not convey additional information.



Takeaways

- While there are a few exceptions, **stricter gun laws are clearly correlated with lower firearm mortality rates**
 - **13 of the 15 states** with the highest firearm mortality rates are states with the **most lax gun laws**
 - **5 of the 6 states** with the lowest firearm mortality rates are states with the **strictest gun laws**
- These patterns suggests that strict gun control saves lives
- This election cycle, you can—and should!—use this information to **elect officials who will enact stricter gun control**



References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (March 2022). *Firearm mortality by state*. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/firearm_mortality/firearm.htm
- Giffords Law Center. (2021). *Annual gun law scorecard*. Retrieved from <https://giffords.org/lawcenter/resources/scorecard2021/>